68. No appeal was made to the Conservator against any of the decisions passed in the cases compounded.

69. Statement 50 B shows the number of cases in which damages amounting to one rupee, two rupees, and so on up to the maximum, were recovered under Section 67 of the Forest Act, during the year.

70. A statement showing the number of cases compounded and taken into Court is given below :—

No.	Division.	Taken into Court.		Compounded under Section 67.		Total number of cases.	
		1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1891-92.
1	Northern Division of Kánara ...	17	21	22	8	39	29
2	Central Division of Kánara ...	8	20	56	60	64	80
3	Southern Division of Kánara ...	18	103	98	45	116	148
4	Belgaum	49	36	361	210	410	246
5	Dhárwár	15	7	52	65	67	72
6	Bijápur	11	8	76	49	87	57
7	Kolába	49	122	266	167	315	289
8	Ratnágiri	27	29	121	199	148	228
	Total ...	194	346	1,052	803	1,246	1,149

71. The cases taken into Court during 1891-92 amounted to 346, and 11 were pending at the close of the year 1890-91. Of these, 252 were disposed of by Magistrates and 105 remained undecided at the close of the year under report.

72. The number of animals impounded during 1891-92 in open and closed forests is given below :—

No.	Division.	Number of Animals impounded.		Total.	Remarks.
		In open Forests.	In closed Forests.		
1	Northern Division of Kánara ...	...	173	173	
2	Central Division of Kánara ...	346	194	540	
3	Southern Division of Kánara ...	121	122	243	
4	Belgaum	1,892	1,239	3,131	
5	Dhárwár	686	1,680	2,366	
6	Bijápur	1,279	...	1,279	
7	Kolába	...	763	763	
8	Ratnágiri	119	112	231	
	Total ...	4,443	4,283	8,726	

73. *Civil Suits.*—In the civil suit Gopi Mahábleshwarbhat *vs.* Sheshu Manju (paragraph 52 of the Administration Report for 1882-83) the High Court on appeal awarded the plaintiff one rupee nominal damages, each party to bear his own cost.

FOREST FIRES.

74. During the year special measures of fire protection were adopted as usual in the three Divisions of Kánara and in Belgaum and Dhárwár. In some of the divisions a larger area was fire-traced than in the year before.

75. In Bijápur no area was specially protected. The Divisional Officer reports that as the season was exceptionally dry and there was no grass on the hills after January, there was no need to fire-trace the forests, and that it would have been impossible to adopt any measures. He further says that no fire entered any of the forests including *Kurans*.

76. In Kolába no steps appear to have been taken, and the Divisional Officer reports "it was considered unnecessary for any special measures to be taken," except in the two newly added ranges of Karjat and Khálápur, where, out of 19,407 acres attempted, 774 acres are reported to have been burnt.

77. The following statement shows the results of special protection reported for the past years:—

Division.	Area in Square Miles.			Proportion of failures to area attempted.	Cost.		Proportion of area under fire protection to total area of Reserves.
	Attempted.	Failures.	Protected.		Per Square mile protected.	Per acre protected.	
					Rs.	Pies.	
Northern Division, Kánara	578·11	3·50	574·61	·06	18·89	5·6	...
Central Division, Kánara.	162·57	6·12	156·45	3·77	21·15	6·3	...
Southern Division, Kánara	45·99	9·08	36·91	19·74	5·79	1·7	...
Belgaum	174·31	3·53	170·78	2·02	8·40	2·5	...
Dhárwár	55·65	2·06	53·59	3·70	10·39	3·1	...
Kolába	30·32	1·20	29·12	3·95	3·60	1·07	...
Total in 1891-92 ...	1,046	25	1,021	2·39	16·14	4·8	53·2
Total in 1890-91 ...	1,059	9	1,050	0·8	14·07	4·2	56
Increase or Decrease in 1891-92	—13	+16	—29	+1·59	+2·07	+·6	—2·8

78. A sum of Rs. 1,056, which in Central Kánara was due for operations conducted during 1890-91, was actually paid during the year under report. This has consequently increased the cost per square mile.

79. The following areas are estimated to have escaped fire without adoption of special measures:—

	Acres.
Northern Division of Kánara	388,532
Central do. do.	504,341
Southern do. do.	694,919
Belgaum Division	324,393
Dhárwár do.	234,701
Bijápur do.	137,466
Kolába do.	251,340
Ratnágiri do.	12,656
Total ...	2,548,348

80. During the previous season, the area reported as having escaped fire without the taking of special measures amounted to 4,094 square miles, or 79 per cent. of the whole area. During the year under report it amounted to 3,982 square miles, or 74 per cent. of the whole area.

Northern Division of Kánara.

81. The results of the fire protection are reported to have been satisfactory during the hot season which was an exceptionally dry and long one. No rain fell from January till May, and protection-lines and traces had to be opened much earlier than usual. There was one case of fire in the dry bamboo jungles between Tátwhál and Sámbráni, which calls for special notice. On five different occasions the forests were set on fire by the villagers for grazing purposes, and, as the dead bamboos were as dry as tinder, these fires were put out with great difficulty and not before 2,000 acres were burnt.

Central Division of Kánara.

82. Fire protection in the Yellápur range is reported to have been very successful. In Mundgod, where cattle from plain districts were brought to graze, the area burnt is attributed partly to lateness in commencing operations and partly to incendiarism. It is also reported that as long as the distressed cattle were grazing no fires took place, but after they had left, a fire broke out in different parts three times in one day, and if it had not been for the exertions of the Range Officer and his guards much more would have been burnt.

Southern Division of Kánara.

83. The cause of the fires is ascribed to the spreading of the fires lit by the villagers in their *bén* (adjuncts of cultivation) numbers, and another, the chief one, is that people wilfully set fire to obtain an early crop of grass.

84. The results of fire-protection in the Belgaum Division compare very favourably with those of the previous years, in spite of a very dry and unfavourable year. A successful attempt was made to prevent the annual fires which sweep across the forests to the west. Of the area specially protected, 1,558 acres were burnt in Khánápur and 600 acres in Belgaum. The area was filled with long dry grass which was very inflammable.

Dhárwár.

85. Although distressed cattle were admitted into all the closed portions of the Reserves except plantations, the increase in the area burnt was comparatively small.

86. Mr. MacGregor records that during his hot-weather tour of 1892 he particularly noted the rareness of fires in the Central and Northern Divisions of Kánara. Even in the areas not specially protected fires were much less frequent than usual.

GRAZING AND FENCING.

87. The year's revenue from grazing shows an increase of Rs. 18,678; it amounted to Rs. 91,487 against 72,809 of the previous year. The increase occurs mostly in Dhárwár and Belgaum, and is due to the revised scale of fees levied under the Grazing Regulations sanctioned in Government Resolution No. 3595 of 23rd May 1890, now first introduced.

88. Owing to the prevailing scarcity of fodder all the forests were thrown open for free-grazing. But these orders were issued two or three months after the new system was introduced. Had the regulations been uniformly carried out, the revenue would have been still larger. The new rules could not be brought into force in Bijápur, owing to the failure of the rainfall and consequent fodder famine.

89. An increase is also noticeable in the grazing receipts of Kánara, where a higher rate of fee was sanctioned for outside cattle, and those belonging to professional graziers. Cattle from the plain districts were driven into the Kánara forests, and there they were permitted freely to graze in "Protected" forests, fees only being collected from the wealthy owners. Orders were received that, if necessary, these cattle should also be allowed to graze in the "Reserved" forests.

90. The areas closed to grazing during 1890-91 and 1891-92 were as shown below :—

Divisions.	Area closed.			
	1890-91.		1891-92.	
	Sq. miles.	Acres.	Sq. miles.	Acres.
Northern Division of Kánara ...	190	214	190	214
Central do. do. ...	81	455	81	455
Southern do. do. ...	123	629	123	629
Belgaum do.	24	536	23	487
Dhárwár do.	90	307	8	109
Bijápur do.	43	291	.....	
Kolába do.	6	567	6	567
Ratnágiri do.	20	79	20	79
Total ...	581	518	454	620